

REMARKS

Applicants elect with traverse Group III, claims 7, 8 and 11-13, drawn to the use of a DNA sequence encoding a plant dihydroorotase to identify inhibitors.

The examiner stated that the inventions listed as Groups I-IV do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features. The examiner states various reasons why the groups lack the same or corresponding features. The examiner does not, however, provide a reason as to why Groups I and III are separable.

Applicants believe that, at least, Groups I and III form a single general inventive concept. The special technical feature is the inventive DNA sequence. It represents an advance over the prior art.

Also, since there can be more than one special feature, applicants believe groups I-V all form a single general inventive concept. The common feature is dihydroorotase inhibitor. This is present in all groups.

Reconsideration of the examiner's position is therefore requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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